

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

ORDER NO. 79-63

NPDES PERMIT NO. CA0027839

WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR:

UNION CHEMICALS DIVISION OF
UNION OIL COMPANY OF CALIFORNIA
NICHOLS PLANT
CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay Region, hereinafter called the Board, finds that:

1. Union Chemicals Division of Union Oil Company of California, Nichols Plant, hereinafter discharger, formerly known as Collier Carbon and Chemical Corporation, submitted a report of waste discharge (NPDES Short Form C) on January 30, 1979, for reissuance of its NPDES permit which expires on July 1, 1979.
2. The discharger has shut down the Nichols Plant but continues to maintain the plant's two containment ponds which collect storm runoff. This runoff may be polluted with acid and gypsum residuals from the storage and process areas. Storm runoff in excess of the ponds' designed capacity is treated for pH control then discharged into a drainage ditch tributary to Suisun Bay, a water of the United States, at a point approximately 1500 feet east-northeast of the intersection of Nichols Road and Port Chicago Highway in Nichols, California.
3. On July 16, 1974, the Regional Board adopted Order No. 74-53 prescribing waste discharge requirements for this discharge.
4. A Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay Basin (Basin Plan) was adopted by the Board on April 8, 1975. This Basin Plan contains water quality objectives for Suisun Bay and contiguous waters.
5. The beneficial uses of Suisun Bay and contiguous waters are:
 - a. Recreation (contact and non-contact)
 - b. Fish migration and spawning
 - c. Habitat for wildlife and estuarine organisms including some rare and endangered species
 - d. Industrial water supply
 - e. Esthetic enjoyment
 - f. Navigation
 - g. Commercial and sport fishing

6. Effluent limitations and toxic effluent standards, established pursuant to Sections 208(b), 301, 304, and 307 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and amendments thereto are applicable to the discharge.
7. This project involves the continued operation of a privately-owned facility with negligible or no expansion of use beyond that previously existing. Consequently, this project will not have a significant effect on the environment based upon the exemption provided in Section 15101, Title 14, California Water Code.
8. The Board has notified the discharger and interested agencies and persons of its intent to prescribe waste discharge requirements for the discharge and has provided them with an opportunity for a public hearing and an opportunity to submit their written views and recommendations.
9. The Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all comments pertaining to the discharge.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Union Chemicals Division of Union Oil Company of California, in order to meet the provisions contained in Division 7 of the California Water Code and regulations adopted thereunder and the provisions of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, and regulations and guidelines adopted thereunder shall comply with the following:

A. Effluent Limitations

1. The discharge of stormwater runoff from the former product handling and storage areas to waters of the State shall not have a pH of less than 6.5 nor greater than 8.5.

B. Provisions

1. Neither the treatment nor the disposal of pollutants shall create a nuisance as defined in the California Water Code.
2. Stormwater runoff from the process and storage areas shall be routed to impoundment structures.
3. Polluted stormwater impoundments shall be maintained in a manner which will prevent percolation or seepage of the wastes.
4. The disposal of waste shall not cause degradation of ground water suitable for domestic use or cause an increase in any quality parameter that would make ground water unsuitable for domestic or industrial usage.
5. Within 30 days after discharge, the discharger shall submit to the Board a report documenting compliance with effluent limitation A.1. The report shall include:
 - a. Time and date on which discharge was made;
 - b. volume of waste discharged;
 - c. pH of waste discharged.

6. Order No. 74-53 is hereby rescinded.
7. The discharger shall comply with all sections of this Order immediately upon adoption.
8. This Order includes all items of the attached April 1977 Standard Provisions, Reporting Requirements, except A.5., A.16., B.1., B.2., B.5.
9. This Order expires on June 19, 1984, and the discharger must file a Report of Waste Discharge in accordance with Title 23, California Administrative Code, not later than 180 days in advance of such date as application for issuance of new waste discharge requirements.
10. The discharger shall notify this Board by letter in the event of any material change in the use of the property.

I, Fred H. Dierker, Executive Officer, do hereby certify the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay Region, on June 19, 1979.

Attachment:

Standard Provisions, Reporting
Requirements, and Definitions - April 1977

FRED H. DIERKER
Executive Officer